

Institut Simone de Beauvoir Institute

Concordia University

S DEB 3981/4

Sem: AA

WOMEN OF IDEAS:

A HISTORY OF FEMINIST THEORY



Instructor: Barbara Roberts

Time: Tuesdays, 16:05 - 17:55

Date: January, 1988

Place: MU 203

Simone de Beauvoir Institute

This course will examine the development of feminist theories focussing mainly on the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and concluding with a brief overview of some twentieth-century themes.

A variety of threads in the emergence of the modern tapestry of feminism will be examined, including the contribution of, and tensions between Enlightenment thought, social, political and maternal feminism, utopian, marxist and socialist feminism.

Students will be introduced to the main ideas of such writers as: Abigail ADAMS, Mary WOLLSTONECRAFT, Frances WRIGHT, Margaret FULLER, John STUART MILL, Harriet MARTINEAU, Susan B. ANTHONY, the GRIMKE sisters, Elizabeth CADY STANTON, Friedrick ENGELS, Emma GOLDMAN, Charlotte PERKINS GILMAN, and Virginia WOOLF.

There will also be an opportunity to examine selected works of these or other writers in greater depth.

In addition to providing an historical overview, the course will develop a general understanding of the relation between context, theory & practice.

A conscious aim will be to develop skill in the clear expression of complex ideas, orally and in writing.

PREREQUISITE: Second year standing or permission of the Institute.

Offered for credit in the core Women's Studies programme and open as an elective for other qualified students.

The course is seen as a useful preparative course for students planning to take the advanced Women's Studies Seminar(WMNS 498). SDEB is the course code for the Simone de Beauvoir Institute

